Claims 1-9 were pending in this application. Claims 10-19 are added by this amendment. Claims 1, 6, 10, 16, and 19 are independent claims.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,875,102 to Poetsch ("Poetsch").

Poetsch shows a scanning device having an error detection scanning device 8 and a film scanning station 18. The error detection scanning device 8 is encountered by a portion of the film prior to that same portion of the film being encountered by the film scanning station (see, FIG. 5, and the accompanying description in Col. 3, line 68 through Col. 4, line 5). In one embodiment, a "reference pattern" for picture unsteadiness error correction "could also be produced from the normalized measurements of sprocket holes ..." (See, Col. 4, lines 27-29). In FIG. 11, Poetsch shows that sprocket holes may be measured utilizing a laser to provide flying spot scanning by a variably directed output beam of the laser (see, Col. 7, lines 57-61). In all of the embodiments shown, Poetsch utilizes an obliquely aligned photo sensor to detect the sprocket hole.

The Examiner asserts that Poetsch may be modified to detect a beginning and end of the sprocket hole since Poetsch scans left and leading edges of the sprocket holes. In fact, Poetsch only teaches scanning left and leading edges of the film frame (see, Col. 4, lines 9-17). The film frame is the portion of the image area of the film and is shown in FIG. 1 as being bounded by a solid picture

border (see, Col. 3, lines 62-68) which does not include the sprocket holes. So firstly, Poetsch does not show what is suggested in the Office Action. Further, the mere fact that the prior art Poetsch device could be modified to operate as required by currently pending Claim 1 does not make the modification obvious unless the prior art suggested the desirability of the modification. (See, In re Laskowski, 871 F.2d 115, 117; and In re Gordon, 733 F.2d 900, 902.)

Accordingly, Poetsch does not disclose or suggest (emphasis provided) "wherein the second scanning device is configured to detect both the beginning and the end of the sprocket holes" as required by Claim 1. Neither does Poetsch disclose or suggest (emphasis provided) "a second scanning device for scanning sprocket holes and areas around sprocket holes" as required by new Claim 10; or "a light source configured to generate light in the infrared range and configured to scan sprocket holes and areas around sprocket holes of a cinematographic film" as required by new Claim 16; or "a second scanning device for scanning sprocket holes and areas around sprocket holes, wherein the spectral sensitivities of the first and second scanning devices lie in maximally different spectral ranges, and wherein the second scanning device is configured to detect a change in density of the cinematographic film surrounding the sprocket holes" as required by new Claim 19.

Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1, 6, 10, 16, and 19 are patentable over Poetsch, and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Claims

2-5, 7-9, 11-15, and 17-18 respectively depend from one of Claims 1, 6, 10, and 16 and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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